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TENNESSEE STATE PARKS CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN BEST IN THE NATION







Cumberland Mountain State Park

is a 1720-acre park situated on the sandstone tableland of the Cumberland Plateau. The biological diversity of the Cumberland Mountain area is remarkable; the park contains every type of tree, shrub, and flower found on the Cumberland Plateau. A summer walk on the Byrd Lake trail will testify to this claim. The park is home to typical Tennessee mammals such as deer, gray and red fox, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, skunk, as well as a variety of songbirds and waterfowl.

Historical Significance

Land was acquired south of Crossville in 1934 as a project of the Farm Security Administration to provide a recreation area for some 250 families selected to homestead in the general area of Cumberland County. The Homestead Act was established by the Roosevelt Administration to aid in building a self-sustaining community and further colonization in this then-sparsely populated part of the state. The Civilian Conservation Corps, the Works Projects Administration and the American Friends Service Committee constructed the park, which opened in 1940. The park's architecture is unique: buildings are constructed of a local rock called Crab Orchard sandstone. The Crab Orchard stone dam/bridge is the park's best-known landmark and is the largest masonry structure ever built by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Camping

Available to the park guest are 145 campsites complete with water and electrical hookups with 14 of the sites having sewer hookup. There are five camping areas with a bathhouse with heated showers in each area. A camp store is available from May until October. Campsites are on a first-come first-serve basis.

Meeting Rooms

The park restaurant has 3 meeting rooms downstairs for parties, banquets, and private functions. The largest room can accommodate 125 with 2 smaller rooms accommodating up to 50 each. Handicapped parking is available as well as accessibility inside the facility. To accommodate our groups we have available TV, VCR, DVD, Projector Screens, P.A System and PC Internet Hook-Up. Reservations are available by calling (931) 484-7186.

Restaurant

The park restaurant serves two meals a day and is open all year except during the Christmas holidays. The dining hall features a beautiful view of the lake and dam, and will seat 200 people. The restaurant has a comfortable smoke-free atmosphere combined with some of the best Southern cuisine in Tennessee. The restaurant is popular for it's Catfish on Fridays, smoked ribs and BBQ Saturday Nights and traditional southern country meals with great fried chicken served on Sundays.

Cabins

The park has 37 cabins consisting of rustic, modern, duplex and timber lodges. Each cabin is fully equipped for housekeeping, including linens and cable TV. Rustic cabins are older and more rustic in appearance, but offer the same conveniences. Firewood for cabin fireplaces is provided during the winter months starting the first week in October through the end of April. The park offers a AA rustic cabin in which pets are allowed. Reservations can be made up to two years in advance.

Group Lodge

The Mill House Lodge is perfect for large families or groups up to 16 people. Located just below the park's dam, the sound of the falls flowing through the dam's arches creates a relaxing atmosphere during your stay. It is open year-round and a deposit is required.

Gift Shop

A gift shop located inside the park restaurant offers clothing, walking sticks and a wide variety of unique souvenir and gift items.

Picnic Pavilions

Picnic tables, grills, pavilions, water fountains, and restrooms are conveniently located throughout the park. There are four large pavilions capable of accommodating 50 to 75 people and may be reserved with a deposit up to a year in advance by calling the park office.

Boating

The park's 50-acre lake offers some of the finest water recreation. With fishing boats, rowboats, paddleboats, and canoes available for rent, the park guest will enjoy some of the best water fun there is.

Fishing

The park's Byrd Lake is well known for its fishing. You can expect to catch Largemouth Bass, Catfish, Crappie, Shell cracker and Rainbow Trout, which is stocked annually. The boat dock is open from May until October and a Tennessee Fishing License is required and can be purchased at the Park Office.

Hiking

The Park offers fourteen miles of hiking trails for those who enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. Trails that wind along the banks of Byrd Lake and or take you deep into the woods of the park offer a variety of easy to moderate day or overnight hiking experiences. Trail maps are available at the Park Office.

Planned Programs

Interpretive programs covering a variety of natural and history topics and recreational programs for all ages are scheduled weekly during summer months. Programs are provided for organized groups year-round upon request, depending on staff availability.

Swimming

An Olympic size swimming pool will insure the park guests a wonderful time in the water. Cabin guests have free access; campers and the general public are charged an entry fee. Complete with dressing rooms, showers, lounging areas, and a snack bar, the pool is a favorite place for the park guest.

Golf Course

A beautifully designed Jack Nicklaus 18-hole course takes advantage of elevation changes as well as natural hazards such as flowing streams and clustered pines. The signature 7th hole incorporates another of the state's natural resources, layered flagstone. For more information call (931) 707-1640.

Amphitheatre

The park's amphitheatre is behind the restaurant along the bank of Byrd Lake. Throughout the summer it is used for weekly programs, special activities and will seat around 75 people. Each Sunday morning a non-denominational worship service is conducted for park guests.



Nearby Attractions

- Cumberland Homesteads Tower/Museum, 1 mile
- Cumberland County Playhouse, Crossville, TN, 6 miles
- The Crabtree House Living History Museum (Homestead House), 1 mile
- Ozone Falls State Natural Area, 12 miles.

Other Nearby State Parks

- Fall Creek Falls, 35 miles
- Burgess Falls, 46 miles
- Rock Island, 44 miles

Annual Events

- Spring Craft Show, April
- Cumberland Mtn. State Park Fishing Derby, June
- Crossville's 4th of July Fireworks Show, July
- Annual Rodeo, July
- Hwy 127 Yard Sale Worlds Longest Yard Sale, August
- Homesteads Apple Festival, September
- Pioneer Days, September
- Fall Craft Show, October
- Gobbler Gallop (Race), Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- Christmas In The Park, December

